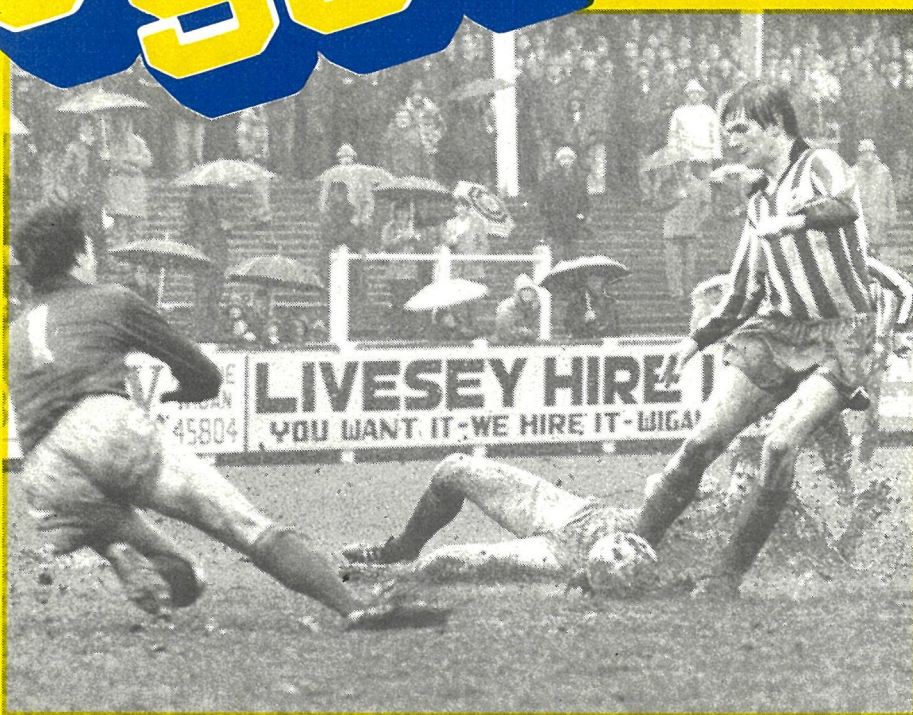


**25p**

**THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WIGAN ATHLETIC**

# **SPRINGFIELD SCENE**



**Saturday, 4th April, 1981 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.**  
**FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR**

**WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH**

**Today's match is sponsored by Inter-Met Shop Equipment Limited**



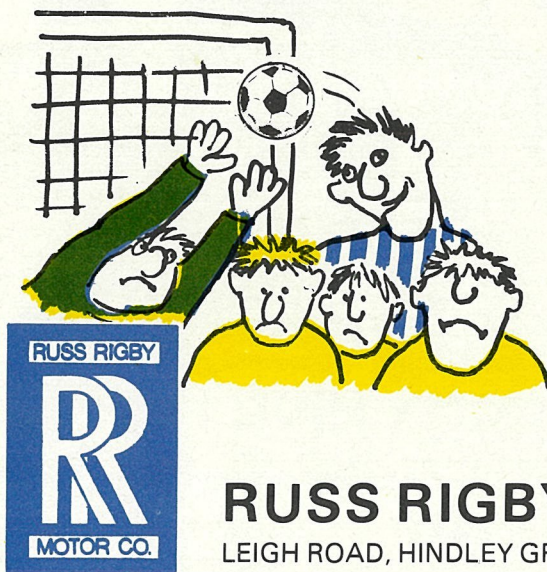
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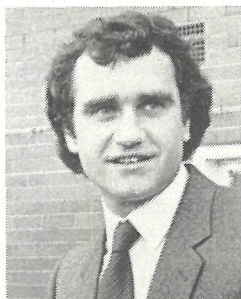
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## MY POINT OF VIEW

WELCOME, first of all, to David Webb and his A.F.C. Bournemouth players, who are making a late bid for a promotion place. I hope the only thing they leave with after today's

game is our best wishes for the future.

Since my last notes, in the programme for the Torquay United game, we have been on our travels, and enjoyed mixed fortunes, in the two games against Tranmere Rovers and Wimbledon.

### **Tranmere**

There was a pleasing aspect and a not so pleasing aspect about this game. We raced into an early two goal lead, thanks of course, to Peter Houghton, but for some inexplicable reason we lost our concentration a little, and allowed Tranmere Rovers back into the game. Had Peter not completed a well-deserved hat-trick, we would have shared the points with a team who, on the day, were inferior to ourselves. It was, however, rewarding for the players to find that a large contingent of our fans

travelled to Prenton Park to give us tremendous vocal support, and I personally thank each one of you who made the journey for that support.

### **Wimbledon**

I felt once again that we were the better team, last Tuesday, at Plough Lane, but we experienced our old problem of not being able to find the net. We put in an awful lot of effort for no reward, which was rather disappointing.

Today's game will be difficult, as A.F.C. Bournemouth are enjoying a good run, but the way things have been going for us lately, I feel sure we can give a good account of ourselves.

Enjoy today's game. Best Wishes,  
Larry Lloyd.

Front page photo — Goalmouth mudlarks! Jeff Wright prepares to take the ball wide of the Torquay United goalkeeper Vince O'Keefe. Photograph by courtesy of Wigan Observer.

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## GREAT NAMES FROM THE PAST

BY HAROLD ASHURST

MOVING on to the more recent days in connection with our great names from the past, we come to the Northern Premier League era, and the first team assembled by former manager Ian McNeill in his initial spell at Springfield Park.

One of Ian's first signings, for the new challenge, was fullback Billy Sutherland from Glasgow Rangers. Billy came to Springfield Park with a number of games for the Ibrox club behind him and he immediately settled into the leftback position, although he could play equally as well on the right as the left. He became a firm favourite with the fans, because, although he

was an excellent defensive fullback, he liked to move forward in attack, he possessed a terrific shot and he was to score many memorable goals for the club.

Two of his never to-be-forgotten efforts came in F.A. Cup Ties at Springfield Park, and they are my particular favourites, but, of course, people may differ and have their own. The first was against Third Division Port Vale in an F.A. Cup Tie at Springfield Park way back in 1969, when he sent 13,000 Latics fans wild with the thundering free-kick from nearly 30 yards; and the second came, a season or two later, again in the F.A. Cup, against Rhyl at Springfield Park, when Billy scored with a tremendous volley from 25 yards that put Wigan Athletic into the First Round Proper of the competition. Billy Sutherland also has the distinction of having scored Wigan Athletic's first-ever goal in the Northern Premier League in a 2-0 win at Scarborough in 1968.

Billy remained at Springfield Park through the reigns of Ian McNeill, Gordon Milne, Les Rigby, and Brian Tiler, before an injury in an F.A. Cup replay, against Shrewsbury Town in 1975, virtually ended his playing days. He left at the end of that season, after picking up his second Northern Premier League Championship medal, and returned to his native Scotland, where, today, a slightly more portly Billy Sutherland now works in the landscape gardening business.

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**by Fred Eyre**

THE reserve team gained a hard earned point last week at Gay Meadow with a 0-0 draw against Shrewsbury Town.

It was a game neither side deserved to lose, although we did have the best chance of the game when Billy Urquhart just failed to connect, as he slid full length, in an attempt to convert a slide-rule pass from Tony Quinn which would have given us a much-needed goal.

This coming Monday, 6th April, sees the completion of our "home" reserve team fixtures for the season with a game against Chester, and we will be hoping to avenge last week's defeat.

The Youth Team have also, by now, nearly completed their fixtures, and it has been another successful campaign for them. Hopefully, we will be seeing some of these boys pushing for a place in the reserve side next season.

Our first team Sunday fixture at Tranmere, last weekend, enabled manager Larry Lloyd to go down to Robin Park, last Saturday morning, to cast his eye over our young talent and he was very impressed by the standard of their play.

Just for the record, the reserve team on duty at Shrewsbury was:

1. John Brown, 2. Brian Kettle, 3. Brian Freeman, 4. Mark Wignall, 5. Willie Gray, 6. Dave Fretwell, 7. Dave Glenn, 8. Tony Quinn, 9. Jim Oliver, 10. Billy Urquhart, 11. Lawrence Tierney, 12. Kevin Langley, who substituted for David Glenn at half-time.

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## COMMERCIAL CHATTER

ONE OF the less publicised, but most valuable exercises with which my department is associated during the course of the season, is the programme exchange facility that we try to offer the fans of not only our own, but also other clubs with whom we come into contact. By arrangement with other Commercial Managers and Club Secretaries, we exchange, pro-rata to the value of the programmes, about 100-150 copies with each club played. Only rarely does the system come unstuck, and, to the best of my knowledge only twice in the past two seasons have we been unable to meet our supporters' requirements, and in both cases, the fault has not been on our side. At Chelsea, last year, when we had ordered a good quantity to cater for those fans who were unable to make the long mid-week journey to the South of England, we were let down when the programmes which should have been passed over to us had, in error, been sold to a programme dealer. Again, this year, we were disappointed, when, instead of handing over 100 programmes as arranged, Hartlepool United had sold all but 50 of our expected allocation, making it impossible for us to satisfy the demands of our spectators at the next home game. Try as we have done, we have not been able to obtain any extra copies of the programmes issued for these two games, hence the advert which you will find elsewhere in this week's issue of the programme. For the record, we always obtain a minimum of 100 copies of the opposition's programme, and these are on sale from our offices within 48 hours of the game being played. Where the opposition is drawn from further afield, we increase the order to 150 copies, to allow for extra requirements in the event of supporters being unable to travel long distances in great numbers. Certainly, the service we provide is invaluable to the collector who wishes to

maintain his library of Wigan Athletic programmes since our entry into the Football League. By arrangement, we can put programmes to one side for regular subscribers, but our general rule remains first come, first served. We hope to continue the good work next season.

We are again delighted to acknowledge the sponsoring of today's game by good friends from the Adlington area. Inter-Met Shop Equipment Limited is one of the leading designers and manufacturers of free-standing shop equipment. The locally based company has extensive manufacturing plant and is able to produce a system ideally suited to all trades — grocers, newsagents, hardware shops, fashion, and garden centres to name but a few. If you are fitting out a store or shop, Inter-Met should have the answer, and is well worth a try. The firm also manufactures point-of-sale units for a variety of companies, and their strength lies in their expertise in the presentation of products. If you are in the market, keep the company in mind. Inter-Met Shop Equipment Limited can be contacted at Inter-Met House, Babylon Lane, Adlington, Lancs. Telephone Adlington 481861.

Today's match ball has been kindly donated by The National Coach Rally, in memory of the late Mr. Wilf Bearshaw, its Founder and Past Secretary. Wilf, as he will always be known to many of us, was one of our keenest and most loyal supporters.

Enjoy today's game.

Jack Sudworth, Commercial Manager.





Springfield Park, Wigan. 1st April, 1981.

Dear Readers,

We have only received one letter recently, and again it is from our enthusiastic young supporter up in Cumbria, Simon Fullelove. It is nice to know that, after a somewhat disappointing season, our team made the young man's day against Torquay United.

Further to a recent comment in this feature, I am pleased to inform you that the Reverend Dennis Hall will have use of this space for the final game of the season against Wimbledon, to outline his role, as he sees it, as Club Chaplain.

We would like to receive one final heavy post-bag to make this column come alive in the issue printed for the Stockport County game on Easter Saturday.

Yours sincerely,

Jack Sudworth, Commercial Manager.

"Hillside", Woodend, Egremont, Cumbria, CA22 2TD. 21st March, 1981.

Dear Sir,

I would like to thank the Wigan Athletic players for a very entertaining game against Torquay United, played in front of 3,000 loyal supporters in appalling conditions.

I found the game particularly enjoyable, as it was the first win of the season I had seen. Before the Torquay game I had watched Latics on five occasions, two of the games being drawn, and three lost. When I see a performance like the one against Torquay United, it makes all the travelling and expense worthwhile. I hope to see the last three games of the season, and also hope to see a larger crowd. If I lived in Wigan, like most supporters, I would not scorn the opportunity to watch every home game, and even some away games, no matter what the weather, or current form.

As it is, by the end of the season, I will have travelled some 2,376 miles, taking up to 95 hours of travel, and costing over £100, just to see nine home games. Some fans do not know when they are well off, living within a mile or two of the ground, and they still don't turn out because of the bad weather.

Yours loyally,

Simon Fullelove

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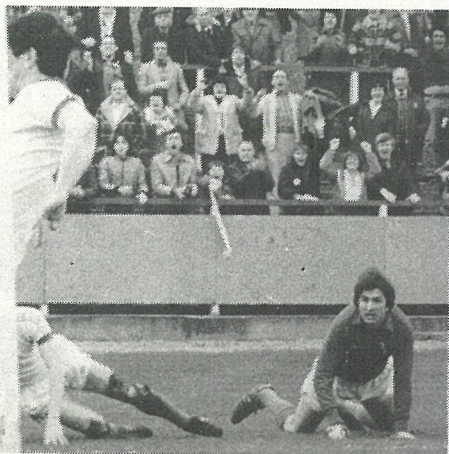
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# PHOTOFILE



*ABOVE & BELOW:*  
Two of the best from Peter Houghton against  
Tranmere Rovers.

*RIGHT:*  
Larry Lloyd creates havoc in the Tranmere Rovers  
defence.  
Photographs by courtesy of David Cookson



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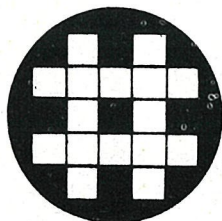
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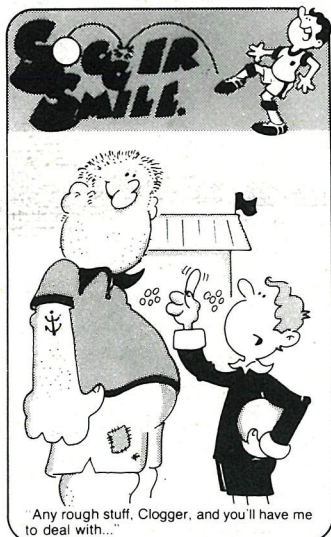
# PASTIME-FUNTIME



## ON THE BALL No. 24

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go

**Doncaster's base is --- Vue; Thomas the whistle? --- Cochrane; Hard shot.**



"Any rough stuff. Clogger, and you'll have me to deal with..."

© MIKE TURNER CARTOONS

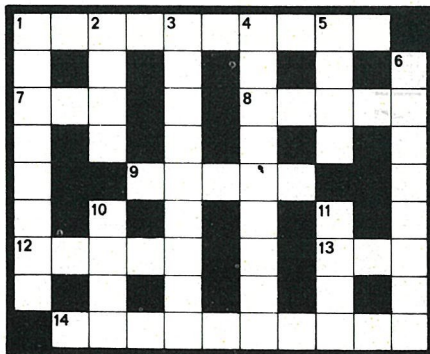
## MIXED DOUBLES No. 24

Rearrange the letters in each of the words **SAPS** and **RECENT** to find two related soccer words.

## CLUB CLUB No. 24

Solve this cryptic club to identify a soccer side:

**Where they encourage 'courting' couples?**



## SOCCER NINETY-NINER

(compiled by David Peck)

### ACROSS

1. City where you'd find the City Ground (10)
7. The nickname of Morton (3)
8. Winning manager at two FA Cup Finals within the last six years (5)
9. He has lived up to his name as a force in Manchester City's midfield (5)
12. Bobby Moore wrote a book called **My Soccer** --- (5)
13. ---Kindvall scored the extra-time goal by which Feyenoord beat Celtic in the 1970 European Cup Final (3)
14. Defender with Cambridge in the 1970s long enough to set up the club's appearances record (which survived until the start of 1981) (5,5)

### DOWN

1. Irving, for example (8)
2. Kellow or Kinsella (4)
3. Utility player who this season joined Sunderland after several seasons with **1ac** (3, 6)
4. Big defender who joined Coventy from Falkirk, where he had been skipper at the age of 17 (9)
5. One of the wins towards one sort of double (4)
6. Old nickname of Crystal Palace (8)
10. The opposite of **5dn** (4)
11. Burnley chairman for the last 25 years (4)

1980/81 series  
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Answers on Page 22.







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# OUR VISITORS



**A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB — 1980/1981** (Left to right) **Back Row:** Gary Pugh; Nigel Spackman; Milton Graham; Danny Bailey; Geoff Butler; John Evanson; John Rodney; Jon Moore; Mark Cooper. **Middle Row:** Kenny Allen; Ian Cunningham; Phil Ferns; Paul Compton; Tom Heffernan; John Impey; Trevor Morgan; Dean Mooney; Ian Leigh. **Front Row:** Kevin Dawtry; Brian Smith; Martin McGrath; Mark Howie; Billy Elliott.

THIS afternoon we extend a warm welcome to the directors, management, staff and supporters of A.F.C. Bournemouth. We trust that their long journey to the North of England has been incident-free and that their party will enjoy a good afternoon's entertainment in what promises to be an attractive end-of-season fixture.

Although our visitors will not have given up hope of gaining one of the two promotion places which still appear to be open to eight contesting teams, realistically, it would appear that "The Cherries" and ourselves are destined for another season of Fourth Division Soccer in 1981/1982. Under that battle-hardened campaigner David Webb, and assisted by the shrewd Alec. Stock, A.F.C. Bournemouth have been a very difficult team to beat this season, and, should they fail to make a promotion spot this time around, the club must be looked upon as a likely contender, along with our own revitalised club, for championship honours next year.

Dean Court always offers a warm welcome, typical of the resort in which the well-appointed ground is located, and always gives the impression of being well-run, cared-for and an example for others in the lower regions of the Football League to follow. Certainly, our visitors today are expected to make the move to a higher grade of soccer in the near future.

In our game at Bournemouth, earlier in the season, our team were hit by a devastating late burst from "The Cherries", and we fully expect that today's game will be as finely balanced and competitive as the first four League encounters between our two clubs.

We wish our visitors well for the future, and look forward to many more stirring games both here, in Wigan, and on the South Coast.

## PREVIOUS LEAGUE RESULTS

Season 1978/1979

31st Mar. 1979 Wigan Ath. 1 Bournemouth 0  
H.T. Score 1-0 Att. 5,527  
Scorers: Wigan Ath. Houghton  
Bournemouth —

5th May 1979 Bournemouth 2 Wigan Ath. 1  
H.T. Score 0-0 Att. 3,063  
Scorers: Bournemouth Massey  
Johnson  
Wigan Ath. Purdie

Season 1979/1980

8th Sept. 1979 Bournemouth 1 Wigan Ath. 2  
H.T. Score 0-0 Att. 4,390  
Scorers: Bournemouth:  
Hinnigan (own goal)  
Wigan Ath. Brownbill (2)

6th Feb. 1980 Wigan Ath. 2 Bournemouth 1  
H.T. Score 1-1 Att. 5,904  
Scorers: Wigan Ath. Houghton  
Wright  
Bournemouth: MacDougall

Season 1980/1981

1st Nov. 1980 Bournemouth 3 Wigan Ath. 0  
H.T. Score 0-0 Att. 2,983  
Scorers: Bournemouth: Moore,  
Massey, Ferns.  
Wigan Ath. —

**KENNY ALLEN** — O. Middlesbrough. Kenny Allen, 26 years on Teesside, is an amateur in the championship medal South African League and in November 1977-78. Kenny joined Brom and Worthing in September 1973 as present member League Champions 1977-78. Kenny joined 1978.

**IAN CUNNINGHAM** — Born: Glasgow. Ian Cunningham, 26, having represented Scotland, and joined AFC as a professional in that year. He captained the side and won eight International Caps in his First Team debut and to the end of last season. 159 League appearances.

**BILLY ELLIOTT** — Poole. Billy joined AFC as a non-contract player, signed for the club as a professional in May 1978. Billy had joined Plymouth school but was unhappy at Park Club and glad to join Bournemouth. He scored 10 goals in AFC's Western League when he made 20 appearances.

**PHIL FERNES** — Born: Liverpool. Phil Fernes, 26, Bournemouth area, father, Phil senior, was a club from Liverpool. He joined AFC at the beginning of the season. He joined AFC in June 1978 and made 17 appearances as a 17-year-old. He commanded a reputation and attracted the attention of the First Division Manchester United.

**TOMMY HEFFERNAN** — Born: Dunlaoghaire, Tottenham Hotspur is a time professional. In the Tottenham Reserve the Football Conference Championship, and Stock's first signings.

# BOURNEMOUTH



**Ground:** Dean Court, Bournemouth  
**Year Formed:** 1899  
**Football League Record:**  
**1923 Elected to Third Division (South)**  
**1923-1970 Member of Third Division**  
**1970-1971 Member of Fourth Division**  
**1971-1975 Member of Third Division**  
**1975-1981 Member of Fourth Division**



**Goalkeeper** — Born: [Name obscured]. Spent his early years in Hartlepool as an apprentice in 1969. He won his first cap with Hellenic in the summer of 1971 and 1972. In 1972 he returned to Hartlepool and spells with West Ham. He joined Bath City in 1974 and was an ever-present member of their Southern League winning side in the 1974-75 season.

**Defender** — Born: [Name obscured]. Left school in 1972 to join Glasgow Schools. He was an apprentice in April 1973 and joined the AFC Youth team in 1973-74. Ian made his debut in December 1974 and last season had made appearances for the club.

**Midfield** — Born: [Name obscured]. Came to AFC in November 1979 as a player and he later joined the club as a full-time player in 1980. 18 year old from Weymouth Argyle from Hampshire. Happy with the Home and moved back to Bournemouth. Showed promise in the youth side last season and has made appearances and

**Defender** — Born: [Name obscured]. Moved to the club in 1965 when his father was transferred to the club. He signed for Poole in the summer of 1977-78. Came to AFC as an apprentice in 1978 and made 14 League appearances. Last season made his first team spot and made a number of appearances for the club.

**Midfield** — Born: [Name obscured]. From Eire. Tommy joined the club in July 1977 as a full-time player. In 1978 he captained the youth side which won the Combination League. He was one of the best players for AFC during the

summer months of 1979. At the age of 21 Tommy captained an Irish Junior International side against Wales.

**JOHN IMPEY** — **Defender** — Born: Exeter. John played soccer for England at both Schoolboy and Youth levels. When he left school he joined Cardiff City as an apprentice. He made his League debut in 1972 and had made 21 League appearances for Cardiff when he moved to Dean Court in July 1975. John, who spent one summer with Seattle Sounders in the NASL, has made 173 League appearances for AFC to date.

**IAN LEIGH** — **Goalkeeper** — Born: Ilfracombe. Ian has lived in the Southampton area since he was three years old. He represented Southampton Schools and joined Saints as an associated schoolboy, playing for Southampton's Youth and 'A' teams. In 1978 he moved to Hants. Division 1 side Swaythling Athletic, and he joined AFC in October 1979.

**STEVE MASSEY** — **Forward** — Born: Stockport. When he left school in 1974, Steve joined Stockport as an apprentice and in February 1975, as a 16 year old apprentice, he made his League debut against Darlington and scored the winning goal. Over the next two seasons he established himself in the senior side. Steve moved to AFC for a £5,000 fee in August 1978.

**MARTIN MCGRATH** — **Midfield** — Born: London. An England Schoolboys International, Martin joined Southampton as an apprentice when he left school and played for their Youth team. Last season he was a regular member of Saints' Reserve side, but made only one League appearance when he came on as substitute at Leeds. Nineteen year old Martin joined AFC during the close season, signing for the club in June.

**JON MOORE** — **Defender** — Born: Cardiff. Whilst at school in Cardiff Jon played in the City's Schoolboy and Youth sides and also won Welsh Schoolboy International honours. When he left school he joined Bristol Rovers as an apprentice. In November 1974, when he was 18, a £20,000 fee took him to Millwall and Jon joined AFC from Millwall in June 1979 having made well over 100 League appearances for the London club.

**NIGEL SPACKMAN** — **Forward** — Born: Romsey. Nineteen year old Nigel is a relatively recent arrival at Dean Court having joined AFC from Southern League club Andover in February 1980. He had been the captain of the Hampshire Youth



side for the past two seasons. Nigel is a student, taking a diploma course in Business Administration, and he signed as full-time pro in May 1980.

**NEIL TOWNSEND** — **Defender** — Born: Long Buckby, Northants. Neil signed as a full-time professional for Northampton Town in 1969 and soon gained England Youth International honours. In the summer of 1973 he moved to Southend United for a £6,000 fee and he remained at Roots Hall until moving to Southern League Weymouth in 1978. AFC signed Neil from Weymouth in the summer of 1979 and last season he won the AFC "Plankplayer 80" award as Player of the Year.

**TREVOR MORGAN** — **Forward** — Born: London. Trevor was signed from Leytonstone Ilford F.C. for £3,000 and plunged straight into the 1st team in September. He scored his first League goal against Rochdale, and is currently our second highest scorer with 7 goals.

**PAUL COMPTON** — **Centre-half** — Born: Stroud. Paul is another of our signings from a non-League club, joining us from Trowbridge Town on 19th October 1980 and making his Football League debut two days later against Crewe Alexandra.

**DEAN MOONEY** — **Forward** — Born: Paddington. Dean joined us from Swedish Club F.C. Gais on the 23rd December 1980 after a short trial period. He started his career as an apprentice with Orient, then had a 13 month spell with Walthamstow Avenue in the Isthmian League before going abroad to sign for Norwegian club Hauger where he stayed two years before moving to Sweden.

**BRIAN SMITH** — **Midfield** — Born: Bolton. Brian began his career with his home town club Bolton Wanderers and was subsequently transferred to Blackpool for £60,000 last season. He signed for AFC on 31st December 1980 after being given a free transfer by Blackpool.

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# PLAYER

**Noel Ward (Defender)**

**Birthplace:** Strabane, Northern Ireland.

**Date of Birth:** 8th December, 1952

**Height:** 6'2"

**Weight:** 12st. 11lbs.

**Previous Professional Clubs:**

**Derry City, Portadown, and Aberdeen.**

**Advice to Youngsters:** Always try to keep your head up, even when times are hard. Be grateful for being able to take part and try to give of your best at all times. Be prepared to listen and learn from good advice.

Although it is some time now since Noel turned out in the Wigan Athletic colours, he is still held in great affection by the fans, who appreciated the workmanlike way in which he helped Wigan to begin their Football League life. He is now back in training and anxious to prove himself out on the park, and to add to the 48 appearances at Football League level and the 4 League goals scored. He carries with him the best wishes of all Wigan Athletic enthusiasts.



Photo by courtesy of The Wigan Reporter

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***WRITTEN QUOTATIONS ON REQUEST***

THE bar staff and committee of the Supporters' Club would like to give a warm welcome to our friends from Bournemouth.

On Sunday, 22nd March, I accompanied Mr. Ronnie Pye to the North Regional Meeting of the National Federation of Supporters' Clubs, held at the Everton Supporters' Club. The afternoon was very entertaining and I was very surprised at the various aspects that were covered. During the meeting the draw for the seven-a-side competition was made, resulting in our side being drawn in the same group as Chesterfield, Liverpool, and Manchester United. This competition is to be played at Huddersfield on Sunday, 12th April, the first match to kick-off at 11.00 a.m. Anyone wishing to go to this event is asked to contact Graham Pye, who is responsible for organising the mini-bus which will leave at 9 a.m.

Another event which will be held in May, at York City, is the Miss Football competition, in which our representative will be Miss Susan Taylor, one of the club's best supporters.

May I also remind all members that subscriptions are now due for the year 1981/1982. The membership fee will stay the same at £1.00, with a 60-pence fee for pensioners.

The Player of the Year Award Presentation Night will be held in the club on Wednesday, 15th April, at

8.00 p.m., and will include a cabaret provided by Trevor Wallace (comedian) and Hanns (vocalist). Tickets priced at £1.00 are now on sale.

Finally, forthcoming week-end entertainment in the club is as follows:-

**Sat. 4th Apr. 1981 Samantha Shay**

**Sun. 5th Apr. 1981 Bryan Christian**

**Sat. 11th Apr. 1981 Mike Gannon and**

**The Gramophonics**

**Sun. 12th Apr. 1981 Ray Malcolm**

Call in for a drink after the match.

Stuart Cooper,  
Chairman.

**SUPPORTERS  
CLUB NEWS**



CONGRATULATIONS to Dave Smith and his super Southend United. Aldershot's defeat at Torquay United, on Sunday last, made sure that the Roots Hall team gained promotion to the Third Division, just one season after dropping into the Fourth Division. Southend United's progress has been steady, and often unspectacular, but with 38 points taken from the 40 at stake at home so far this season, they deservedly go up.

While Lincoln City and Doncaster Rovers, barring accidents, would appear to have staked a claim to the second and third promotion spots, the vacant fourth position could go, mathematically, to any one of eight clubs.

One of the big surprises in recent weeks, was the sudden departure from Valley Parade of Bradford City manager, George Mulhall, who has rejoined Bolton Wanderers, this time as assistant to Stan Anderson. Already, results have started to take on a different shape at Burnden Park since Mulhall moved in, having failed in his efforts to steer the West Yorkshire club to an expected promotion spot this term.

Meanwhile, things on the transfer market have cooled considerably, with the deadline now passed, clubs are obviously not interested in signing players that cannot be used, in most cases, until next season. However, it appears that the mass clear-out of unwanted footballers is already showing signs of getting under way. Bury have released Carl Halford, who has joined Northern Premier League club Macclesfield Town. Also freed by the "Shakers" are Alan Walton and defender John Waddington, a player once on Liverpool's books — both are still looking for clubs.

Today's visitors, A.F.C. Bournemouth have enjoyed a great revival under David Webb, who brought in ex Everton star Alan Whittle to add experience to his side, but the Merseysider is said to be set to join the Australian side Preston. "The Cherries" have released former Fulham star John Evanson, who, it is understood, is planning to play out the season in the Southern League.

Speedway could become a thing of the past at the Shay ground, Halifax. Halifax Town are currently in dispute with the race

promoters over a proposed increase in rent, and it looks like the end for speedway at the football ground.

Finally, several players have recently appeared before F.A. Disciplinary Commissions. Roy Hogen (Hartlepool United), who received a two match ban, and Trevor Brissett (Port Vale), sidelined for one game, are among their number.

#### FOURTH DIVISION LEAGUE TABLE AS AT 1st APRIL, 1981.

	HOME					AWAY					A Pts.
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A	
Southend United	40	18	2	0	44	4	9	3	8	27	59
Lincoln City	39	12	7	1	41	11	9	6	4	20	55
Doncaster Rovers	40	12	4	4	30	18	7	6	7	21	48
Wimbledon	39	12	4	3	34	12	7	4	9	20	46
Peterborough Utd.	40	10	6	4	34	19	6	7	7	27	45
Mansfield Town	39	12	3	4	30	10	7	3	10	20	44
Aldershot	39	12	7	1	25	7	5	3	11	13	44
Darlington	39	10	5	4	36	20	6	5	9	21	42
Bournemouth	40	9	7	4	28	17	6	5	9	14	42
Hartlepool Utd.	40	11	3	6	34	22	6	5	9	21	42
Wigan Athletic	41	11	4	5	26	14	5	5	11	15	40
Torquay United	39	13	1	5	36	19	5	3	12	17	40
Bradford City	39	8	8	4	25	20	4	6	9	18	38
North'pton Town	38	10	4	5	38	23	4	5	10	18	39
Rochdale	39	9	6	5	28	21	3	7	9	23	36
Crewe Alexandra	41	9	6	6	26	20	3	7	10	18	35
Bury	39	9	6	4	29	16	5	2	13	25	37
Scunthorpe Utd.	40	6	11	3	31	25	2	8	10	16	29
Port Vale	38	9	5	5	36	20	2	5	12	15	43
Stockport County	39	7	5	8	25	24	5	2	12	12	26
Tranmere Rovers	39	10	4	5	34	19	1	4	15	16	43
Halifax Town	40	7	3	10	25	31	2	8	10	15	33
York City	38	9	2	8	28	17	1	6	12	9	35
Hereford United	37	6	6	7	24	18	1	4	13	6	39



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# SCENE & HEARD

ALTHOUGH a great deal of credit was due to the players and match officials who took part in the recent game against Torquay United, played in appalling conditions, we have not noticed any recognition being given to the Ground Staff, nor the harassed Administrative Staff, who put in so much effort to ensure that the game took place and that the public were fully informed that Springfield Park would be open for business as usual.

Very few people realise that, on match days, Billy Mitchell, Philip Lowe and on rare occasions, willing assistants, turn in about half-past-eight in the morning to fork, drain, sand, and mark out, while other more fortunate individuals await the referee's decision in the warmth and comfort of their own homes. Several changes of clothing are often required by the unsung heroes, and it is often well after seven-o'clock at night before the ground is locked up and the groundsmen's week-end begins. Similarly, on the morning of any game which is threatened by adverse weather conditions, Company Secretary Eric Jones, and his

assistants Merle Ward and Andrew Postlethwaite, cope with the seemingly unending stream of verbal and telephone enquiries, from near or far, as to whether the game is likely to be played. Right up to the kick-off, work can be going on to get the pitch into as good an order as possible, while the usual late rush of spectators places even more strain on our harassed resources. The Wigan Athletic Football Club is indeed most fortunate to have the services of such an enthusiastic and conscientious back-room staff.

For those spectators who would like to get a glimpse of the action from this season's Lancashire Junior Cup Final, we are pleased to announce that the game between our old friends, the Barrow and Chorley Football Clubs, will take place at Springfield Park on Wednesday, 22nd April, 1981, kick-off at 7.30 p.m. Several of our former players will be on view in this game, which has always attracted the interest of local fans. The Lancashire Football Association, not to mention both competing clubs, would appreciate your support at this game.

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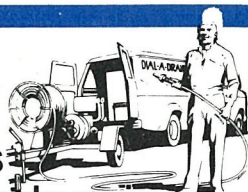




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## LATICS AWAY

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Football League Division Four

**BRADFORD CITY**

- V -

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## PROGRAMME REQUIRED

We would be grateful to hear from any fan who possesses a programme, surplus to requirements, for the Hartlepool United v Wigan Athletic game played on 15th November, 1980.

Also we have received a request from the Peterborough area for a programme from the Wigan Athletic v Peterborough United F.A. Cup game in 1970/1971. If you can oblige, please contact the Commercial Department.

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## The Chairman's Column

I WOULD like to begin my notes by congratulating Larry Lloyd for the organisation and discipline which he has brought into our team in such a very short time. I can now see that we are on the right track. Indeed, I can now see sunshine, not just light at the end of the tunnel. We must now back up his efforts by working at the financial situation.

In budgeting for next year, we must look to reduce our excessive wage bill by at least £50,000. The emphasis from now on must be on quality, rather than quantity in staffing terms. We cannot possibly weather another loss such as we have had to sustain this season, and, in saying that, we must look to build up our off-the-field lottery activities, without which we cannot live.

With effect from the 1st July, 1981, legislation relevant to lotteries will be revised, allowing for increases in prize money, sales per lottery, and general operational limits. A club with a well-established commercial organisation, like Bolton Wanderers, is looking to gross one million pounds from off-the-field activities, with an anticipated one third of that amount being shown as pure profit. We must now gear our efforts towards an eventual matching of that kind of money. I would earnestly implore everyone to help us make this major step forward.

I must place on record our appreciation of the magnificent performance by our team against Torquay United. I am sure that our supporters will forgive the odd bad result, if the effort is shown, as it evidently is from what we witnessed in our last home game. A great result, marked by a fine hat-trick by Peter Houghton, followed against Tranmere Rovers, and we were very unlucky not to gain some kind of reward, at Wimbledon, against one of the division's better sides.

Finally, I am delighted that I have been able to negotiate a settlement with Ian McNeill that was readily acceptable to both parties. We sat down together, without involving any lawyers, talked man to man amicably, and worked out a reasonable solution. I would like to put it on record how much the Wigan Athletic Football Club appreciates everything that Ian McNeill did for the club in his time at Springfield Park.

Yours sincerely,  
Freddie Pye

Chairman.

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## TEAMS

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(Royal Blue  
& White Stripes)

Bob Ward

John Curtis

Steve McAdam

Alex Cribley

Colin Methven

Larry Lloyd

George Urquhart

Jeff Wright

Mike Quinn

Peter Houghton

Frank Corrigan

Dave Fretwell

**A.F.C.  
Bournemouth**  
(Red/White)

1 Kenny Allen

2 Geoff Butler

3 Phil Ferns

4 Brian Smith

5 Paul Compton

6 Tom Heffernan

7 Kevin Dawtry

8 Trevor Morgan

9 Dean Mooney

10 Nigel Spackman

11 Chris Sulley

12 Gary Pugh

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## HERE NEXT

**Saturday, 18th April, 1981.**  
**Kick-off 3.00 p.m.**

**WIGAN ATHLETIC -v-  
STOCKPORT COUNTY**  
Football League Division Four